



Related MLN Matters Article #: MM5122

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Medicare Telehealth Services Update

Key Words

MM5122, CR5122, R996CP, R53BP, Telehealth, Update, CPT

Provider Types Affected

Providers who bill Medicare carriers and fiscal intermediaries (FIs) for telehealth services

Key Points

- The effective date of the instruction is January 1, 2006.
- The implementation date is August 7, 2006.
- CR5122 is issued to alert providers that, effective January 1, 2006, the American Medical Association (AMA) has deleted the following Current Procedure Terminology (CPT) codes:
 - 99271 – 99275 (Confirmatory consultation); and
 - 99261 – 99263 (Follow-up inpatient consultation).
- The CPT codes that describe these services (hospital inpatient follow-up consultations – 99261 through 99263 and confirmatory consultations – 99271 through 99275) no longer exist.
- Effective January 1, 2006, CMS has removed confirmatory consultation and inpatient follow-up consultation from the list of Medicare telehealth services as referenced in the *Medicare Benefit Policy Manual* (Publication 100-02) and the *Medicare Claims Processing Manual* (Publication 100-04).
- The relevant sections of these Manuals (Publication 100-02, Chapter 15, Section 270.2 [List of Medicare Telehealth Services] and Publication 100-04, Chapter 12, Section 190.3 [List of Medicare Telehealth Services]) have been revised to reflect these policy changes.
- As displayed in Table 1 on page 2, in the Background section of MLN article MM5122, office and other outpatient consultations and initial inpatient consultations are included in Medicare telehealth consultations as described by CPT codes 99241 through 99255.
- The table displays the current Medicare telehealth services and CPT and Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) codes.

Important Links

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/MM5122.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R997CP.pdf>

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Transmittals/downloads/R53BP.pdf>